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Serial No. 09/988,222

### APPENDIX I

#### **Marked-Up Version of Specification Paragraph(s) Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.121(b)**

Please change the paragraph appearing on page 6, lines 19-26 to read as follows:

As is perhaps more clearly seen in FIGURE 3, the bottom end cap 118 most preferably includes an arcuate central wall 118-1 which protrudes into the interior cartridge space 116 and a series of integral radial support ribs [20-2] 118-2. The arcuate central wall 118-1 and support [ribs] ribs 118-2 collectively serve to enhance the structural integrity of the filter cartridge body 112 at its lower end so that it may withstand the inlet pressures P1 associated with the inlet fluid entering the interior cartridge space 116.

Please change the paragraph appearing on page 11, line 27 through page 12, line 11 to read as follows:

Virtually any filtration media conventionally employed to filter fluids may be employed as the filtration media in the filter cartridges according to the present invention. Thus, for example, the filtration media may be comprised of a non-woven mass of melt-blown polymeric fibers formed, for example, from thermoplastic polymers, preferably polyolefins such as polypropylene, polyethylene and the like. Especially preferred filter media for filter cartridges are those as described more fully in commonly owned U.S. Patent Nos. 5,591,335 and 6,342,283 [U.S. Application Serial No. 09/358,886 filed July 22, 1999 (now U.S. Patent No. \_\_\_\_\_)], the entire content of each being expressly incorporated hereinto by reference. Alternatively (or additionally) the filter media may be comprised of pleated sheets of non-woven or woven filter

**Charles C. SCHUYLER**  
Serial No. **09/988,222**

materials which are, in and of themselves, highly conventional in the fluid  
filtration art.

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Serial No. 09/988,222

## APPENDIX II

### **Marked-Up Version of Amended Claims Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.121(c)**

1. (Amended) A filter cartridge comprising:  
a generally cylindrical filter body having a fluid-filtration media, and  
at least one length-adjustable end cap attached to an end of said filter  
body, wherein  
said length-adjustable end cap includes an annular stationary ring  
member and a moveable connection member slideably received  
within said annular stationary ring member so as to be moveable  
longitudinally relative thereto, and wherein  
one of said stationary ring member and said moveable connection  
member includes a pair of cross-supports.

Please cancel claim 2.

4. (Amended) The filter cartridge of claim [2 or] 3, wherein said length-adjustable end cap includes an annular base member attached to an end of the cylindrical filter body, and wherein said stationary ring member is generally cylindrical and protrudes upwardly from said annular base member.

14. (Amended) The filter cartridge of claim [2 or] 3, wherein said stationary ring member includes a seal ring in slideable sealing contact with said neck portion of said moveable connection member.

22. (Amended) A filter cartridge comprising:  
a filter body which defines a generally cylindrical interior space;  
a length-adjustable top end cap attached to an upper end of said filter  
body and defines an opening to allow fluid-communication with said  
interior space of said filter body;

**Charles C. SCHUYLER**  
Serial No. 09/988,222

a bottom end attached to a lower end of said filter body so as to close said interior space thereat; wherein

said length-adjustable top end cap includes:

- (i) an annular base member attached to said filter body;
- (ii) a generally cylindrical stationary ring member integrally joined at one end to, and extending upwardly from, said annular base member; [and]
- (iii) a moveable member having a generally transverse annular support flange, [and]
- (iv) a cylindrical neck member integrally depending from said support flange, and
- (v) a series of radially extending buttresses joined to said stationary ring member and said annular base member, wherein
- (vi) [(iv)] said neck member is slideably received within said stationary ring member so as to move the support flange towards and away from said filter body and thereby establish respective lesser and greater axial dimensions of said filter cartridge.

Please cancel claims 25 and 31.